

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15
PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 NSC-05 OMB-01 /060 W
-----071825Z 106279 /47

O 071712Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3805
USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
INFO SECDEF
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 COPENHAGEN 0142

FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL NATO MILI DA US
SUBJECT: DANISH DEFENSE AGREEMENT: NO-CUT DRAFT SUBMITTED TO
NATO

REF: COPENHAGEN 4894 (DTG 291637Z DEC 76)

I WAS SUMMONED BY DEFENSE MINISTER ORLA MOLLER THIS AFTERNOON TO
DISCUSS TWO SUBJECTS: THE F-16 IS TREATED IN A SEPARATE TELEGRAM;
THE PRESENT MESSAGE CONCERNS THE DANISH DEFENSE AGREEMENT.

1) MOLLER SAID THAT AFTER A SESSION IN HIS OFFICE WHICH BEGAN
YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AT 4:00 AND CONTINUED UNTIL 4:00 THIS MORNING,
A COMPLETELY NEW APPROACH WAS TAKEN ON A NEW DANISH DEFENSE AGREE-
MENT TO REPLACE THE CURRENT ONE WHICH EXPIRES MARCH 31.
MOLLER RECALLED THAT HERETOFORE DISCUSSIONS IN THE GROUP OF 12
AMONG REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SIX PARTIES (SOCIAL DEMOCRATS,
RADICALS, CENTER DEMOCRATS, CHRISTIANS, LIBERALS AND CONSERVAT-
IVES) HAD CONCENTRATED ON A FIVE-OR SIX-YEAR REPLACEMENT AGREEMENT,
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INDEXED FOR INFLATION WITH REDUCTIONS IN THE FIRST TWO YEARS OF
THE NEW AGREEMENT TO BE COMPENSATED BY INCREASES IN THE LATTER
YEARS.

2) LAST NIGHT, HOWEVER, MOLLER SAID HE SEIZED UPON A SUGGESTION
MADE BY ONE OF THE NEGOTIATORS. (HE SAID HE WAS NOT AT LIBERTY TO
DISCLOSE WHICH ONE.) THE NEW APPROACH IS, LIKE THE PRESENT AGREE-

MENT, ONE OF FOUR-YEARS' DURATION WITH NO REPEAT NO DECREASES
AND WITH A SIX-PERCENT INCREASE IN REAL TERMS OVER THE FOUR YEARS.
ACCORDING TO FIGURES PROVIDED BY MOLLER, THE AGREEMENT CALLS FOR
THE FOLLOWING SPENDING LEVELS (ALL AMOUNTS IN BILLIONS OF DANISH
KRONER):

1976-77 (THE CURRENT YEAR -	5.826
1977-78	- 5.993
1978-79	- 6.167
1979-80	- 6.176

ACCORDING TO MOLLER, THE INCREASES WILL OCCUR IN THREE PRINCIPAL
AREAS: HOME GUARD, CONSCRIPT PAY RAISES AND EXPENDITURES FOR
THE PROTECTION OF THE EXTENDED GREENLAND TERRITORIAL WATERS.
THESE LATTER INCLUDE A NEW PATROL SHIP, THE ACQUISITION OF A
FOURTH C-130 AND AN INCREASE IN NAVAL PERSONNEL. MOLLER INSISTED
THAT ALL THREE ITMES WOULD BE FUNDED FROM THE DANISH DEFENSE
BUDGET AND NOT, AS WE HAD EARLIER BEEN LED TO BELIEVE, FROM
GENERAL BUDGET ITEMS.

3. ALL PARTIES HAVE AGREED TO THE SCHEME OUTLINED ABOVE EXCEPT
THE RADICALS. MOLLER SAID THE SUBSTANCE OF THEIR POSITION WAS A
COMPLICATED ONE WHICH WAS ALSO BOUND UP IN THEIR PARTICIPATION
IN THE AUGUST 1976 ECONOMIC COMPROMISE AND WHETHER THE RADICALS
WOULD CONTINUE THEIR ASSOCIATION WITH IT. IF THE RADICALS FALL
OUT OF THE AUGUST COMPROMISE OR DO NOT SIGN UP ON THE DEFENSE
COMPROMISE, MOLLER SAID THAT ELECTIONS MIGHT RESULT. ALTHOUGH
HE WAS NOT TOTALL CLEAR ON THIS SUBJECT, IT SEEMS THAT AN ATTEMPT
IS STILL BEING MADE TO ARRIVE AT MUTUALLY AGREEABLE LANGUAGE
WHICH WOULD ALLOW THE REVIEW OF THE NEW DEFENSE AGREEMENT UNDER
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EXTRA-ORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES. THE RADICALS COULD USE THIS LANGUAGE
AS EVIDENCE OF THEIR WINNING ON THIS POINT. THE OTHER PARTIES
TO THE AGREEMENT WOULD, HOWEVER, ATTEMPT TO MAKE SURE THAT A
DEFENSE REVIEW WITHIN THE PERIOD OF THE NEXT FOUR YEARS WOULD
OCCUR ONLY IN THE EVENT OF A NATIONAL EMERGENCY.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 COPENHAGEN 0142

FROM THE AMBASSADOR

4. BECAUSE OF NEWS STORIES CONCERNING LAST NIGHT'S NEGOTIATIONS - NONE OF WHICH WAS CORRECT - EARLIER TODAY I CALLED MFA PERMANENT UNDERSECRETARY EIGIL JØRGENSEN WHO INFORMED ME THAT THE BROAD LINES OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT HAD ALREADY BEEN TRANSMITTED TO DANISH NATO AMBASSADOR SVART WHO WAS INSTRUCTED TO SEEK A NATO REACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. SVART REPLIED THAT HE WOULD BE UNABLE TO MAKE FORMAL PRESENTATION OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT UNTIL TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, AT THE COUNCIL MEETING THAT DAY. SVART ADDED THAT A MILITARY EVALUATION WOULD TAKE AT LEAST 14 DAYS. JØRGENSEN NOTED THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR SVART TO GO DIRECTLY TO GENERAL HAIG BUT THIS IDEA WAS DISMISSED BECAUSE IT WOULD CIRCUMVENT THE MILITARY COMMITTEE.

5. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, JØRGENSEN SAID THE BEST THAT THE DANES COULD HOPE FOR WOULD BE TO OBTAIN SOME SORT OF PRELIMINARY REACTION FROM COMPETENT NATO AUTHORITIES WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE CONSIDERED ANALYSIS WOULD NECESSARILY BE DEFERRED. SVART, FOR EXAMPLE, MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET SOMETHING QUICK FROM LUNS WHEN THE LATTER RETURNS TO BRUSSELS
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FROM SOUTHERN FRANCE.

6. BOTH JØRGENSEN AND MØLLER OBSERVED THAT THE PARTIES WOULD CONVENE AGAIN MONDAY MORNING TO RECEIVE THE REACTION OF THE DANISH DEFENSE COUNCIL (MØLLER SAID THAT HIS DEFENSE CHIEFS WERE "HAPPY" OVER THESE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS) AS WELL AS A PRELIMINARY REACTION FROM NATO. THE SIX PARTIES ARE HOPING TO HAVE ALMOST EVERYTHING LOCKED INTO PLACE BEFORE THE DAY-LONG FOLKETING DEBATE JANUARY 13 CALLED BY THE THREE PARTIES OF THE FAR LEFT.

7) COMMENT: THIS APPARENT TURN-AROUND IN DANISH DEFENSE SPENDING PLANS IS A WELCOME SURPRISE AND IS AT LEAST PARTIALLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE PRESSURES PUT ON THE DANES BY US AND NATO AUTHORITIES.

THE DANES APPARENTLY HAVE TRADED OFF A LONGER AGREEMENT PERIOD (ONLY FOUR INSTEAD OF SIX YEARS) FOR SLIGHT ANNUAL REAL INCREASES (EXCEPT DURING THE LAST YEAR OF THE AGREEMENT). WHAT EXACTLY THEY HAVE DONE WITH THE VARIOUS DEFENSE ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN PART OF EARLIER DANISH DEFENSE PLANNING, WE WILL LEAVE TO OUR COLLEAGUES AT USNATO TO COMMENT ON. HOWEVER, IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW THAT THERE WILL BE NO REPEAT NO REDUCTION IN DEFENSE EXPENDITURES IN THE NEXT FOUR YEARS BUT, ON THE CONTRARY, SLIGHTLY RISING DEFENSE EXPENDITURES. THIS APPEARS TO BE GOOD NEWS, IF IT CLEARS THE DANISH PARLIAMENT.

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